

# The DX Bulletin

AMERICA'S OLDEST WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

ISSUE 235 APRIL 23, 1984

PROPAGATION: Apr 23, High Normal; Apr 24, Low/Below Normal; Apr 25, Below Normal; Apr 26-29, Low Normal; Apr 30, Disturbed; May 1, Below Normal; May 2-5, High Normal; May 6, Low Normal; May 7, 8, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Date	Flux (84)	Alpha (84)	K (84)
271	186	104	4/11	94	10	3
251	178	107	4/12	97	16	2
257	170	108	4/13	107	13	4
258	157	111	4/14	113	15	2
257	151	103	4/15	118	11	4
248	147	104	4/16	119	13	1
241	147	113	4/17	116	7	2
227	146	120	4/18	124	10	2

## BOUVET

### "DX-PEDITION TO BOUVET ISLAND:

There may or may not be experienced radio amateurs among the crew of the Norwegian scientific expedition due to start from South America before the end of 1984. Bouvet will be the last stop after approximately two months en route, late in the season. A landing of short duration (1-3 days) may be expected. Amateur radio operation cannot be guaranteed.

"Other transportation alternatives or combinations that would be suitable for a DXpedition are being explored by the 3Y-PROJECT set up by the LA-DX-GROUP in 1983, with Jorgen, LA5UF, as Project Manager, assisted by LALEE. If suitable means of transportation are found, it will be the objective of this project to organize a DXpedition to Bouvet Island in January/February, 1985.

"LA-DX-GROUP would like to get in touch with persons, organizations, or companies that can contribute to a solution to the transportation problem (ship with helicopter(s)). It would also be helpful to know in advance of contributions, if any, in funds or in kind that may be counted on for a DXpedition of this nature."

---3Y-PROJECT  
c/o Project Mgr Jorgen Hoel  
Munkerudsen 12E  
1165 OSLO 11, NORWAY

MI ATHOS: Our speculation last issue seems to have been correct: word (via J73AH) is that SMØAGD arrived in Greece, received a license, but as of 4/19 had been unable to obtain a

THE EDITOR plans to attend the Dayton Hamvention next weekend. We are looking forward to meeting many of you.

permit to operate from Mt Athos; his deadline was April 20.

PACIFIC: Duane Ausherman, W6REC/ZLØAJW, a member of the recent Kermadec team, planned an operation from Lord Howe Apr 17-25, emphasizing 160-40 Meters. He is also aiming for 3D2DA Fiji May 10-13, and has a license for Pitcairn (VR6DA) but may not be able to obtain transportation to that island.

1S2CK OPERATION from Spratly has been delayed until mid- or late-May. DU1CK and three other Filipinos plan a ten-day stay, and QSLs will be via WBØTEC.

FAROE ISLAND operation by LAs 5DW, 5VAA, and 9PCA is postponed (from Apr 16-26) or cancelled; they missed their flight to the island.

TUNISIA on tap Apr 26-May 8 by DJ1UR, DJ5PX, DL3MQ, DK3JM, and DF3FG, according to the German DX-NL bulletin; all bands, both modes.

MONACO (also per DX-NL) coming May 1-30, all bands, by DL1BA/3A. 160 Meters is possible.

JORDAN JY9AA (WA3HUP) and JY8CQ (WB3CQN) is said to continue for at least two more weeks.

SUIER appeared from Egypt on 75 Meters at least one time thanks to W4ZWE, who is in Cairo but unable to get his own license. He met SUIER and reportedly put up an 80 Meter dipole for him, then coached him on operating techniques on that band.

PRIBILOF VOTE by ARRL's DX Advisory Committee was leaked to the press before the official vote was submitted in writing to Newington. As of 4/20 Newington had still not received word of the vote which was, incidentally, a tie. This means no action will be taken for a while. TDXB chose not to publish this vote until it was official, but another newsletter did go ahead and publish it; the vote tally was leaked before some members of the Committee knew the results.

BVØAA by OH2BH and friends came on right on schedule, good signals on 20 especially; they are trying to work into N.A. on 40 CW around 1000Z; they've already been heard there. JT1AO was on 7009 at 11-1200Z Thursday, 4/19.

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Another Installment of the ever-popular:

NOSTALGIA CORNER!

WHEN WE LAST LEFT our hero (Issue 199), WA9AUM was working DX with a low 3-element beam from Indianapolis just one sunspot cycle ago, in the summer and fall of 1972. Many new, good ones were logged that year and we found 10 Meters not too bad in October but fading fast as winter approached. We turned to 80 Meters and, with a very low dipole, worked Africa and Europe fairly regularly. 28 MHz disappeared from the log by January, 1973, and 15 became scarcer, too. YV0AA Aves came on in January and we logged them only on 80, 40, and 20. Through Feb and Mar, 10 Meters opened occasionally, to Africa and S. America and fairly regularly to Australia and New Zealand, weakly.

In May '73, almost every entry in the DX log was 20 Meters, but what a bonanza: U38AQ, gobs of UL7s and the like, YA1DT, 5U7AZ, UH8BY, FK8KAA, 3D2DI, YJ8BD, 9M8SDA, VK9XX, 9N1MM, all new ones. This is so reminiscent of the bands the past few weeks it is almost unbelievable. Our phone has rung off the hook with reports of JAs and Siberians on 15 in the evenings, JT0DJT at high noon coming in over Africa on 20, BV0AA 20 dB over S9 on 20, and S. Pacific all night long. What we've said all along is oh, so true: At this point in the sunspot cycle, for the next four or five years, May is the month. Yes, the CQ Phone DX Contest is probably the best DX contest weekend of the year at any point in the cycle, but 20 Meters in May is the best long-haul band from now to about 1988.

At the very bottom of the most recent sunspot cycle, we were very active in all-band contesting and, consequently, kept antennas up for all bands. The absolute pit was in the February/March ARRL DX Competition of 1977, when our interest and antenna system peaked... in two weekends of CW, with a 6-element 10 Meter yagi from an excellent location, we managed only about twenty country multipliers! And that was in two weekends a month apart, mind you. Not currently being interested in all-band contesting, and with our antennas still on the ground after moving, we are in a position to consider what to have up the next 4-5 years. We hope our thoughts will be of use to some of you.

We are kissing 10 Meters good-bye for the time being. In the summer of 1975, we were trying to finish up 5-Band DXCC, needing only a hundred on 10; several times we rushed home from work around noontime, hearing that 10 was open to Europe, which was full of countries we needed, coming through on multiple-hop Sproadio E. If you want to play this game the next half-decade, go to it. If you are chasing all-time new countries and have 200 or more, the chances of working new ones on 10 in the coming years are almost nil.

15 Meters is harder to gauge: there will be another year or so of decent openings to real DX. This band will continue to be extremely important to you if you need African countries, South Americans, or spots in the

Pacific. Don't let conditions on 15 this summer fool you...remember what it is like during the summer even at the height of the sunspot cycle, and wait for October. We will have Asia then, and plenty more. Another year before you consider taking down your 15 Meter beam, please! Meanwhile make it bigger and higher if you can, as most of the rare stuff gravitates down from 10.

Most everyone has a story about a local DXer, a crusty old-timer who worked every country there has ever been on the DXCC list, all of them on 20 Meters with a low 3-element yagi. These stories are all absolutely true. The classic piece on DXing, the W3AFM series in QST 20 years ago, documented his working all countries on 20 CW with such a station. Can you name a recent DXpedition which was not active on 20? Oh, sure when the bands are good it is often easier to make the contact on 15 or 10, but you could still depend on 20 to come through at the predictable time.

60 feet is only one wavelength on 20; you will feel the need to make your beam higher than it is now, no matter how high it is. There will be days when every DX station on 20 is as weak as Tim Chen, and most of them won't be able to hear any better, either. These will be the glory days for the hundred foot-high 20 Meter antennas; you will start to think they are working phantom stations on the other end. And naturally stacked systems will be king...say what you will about W2ONV, but at the bottom of the last cycle his 3-over-3 heard as well as transmitted.

This will also be the time to solve those interference problems which have been nagging. Your S4 power pole down the street will mask half the signals on the band at the bottom of the cycle, instead of 10 percent of them. You will also discover that a lot of "modern" transceivers have "solved" their intermod troubles by reducing their overall gain to levels which won't cut it now. So buy a pre-amp, and learn to use it when you need it and keep it off when the band is better.

We think that most of us are jaded after the last five years of prime conditions. In the fall of 1975 there were several days of evening openings between Japan and the U.S. East Coast on 15 Meters, thanks to a jump in the solar flux which made the history books. A lot of evening meals went uneaten that October week. We in W1 did not hear another JA on 15 (or 10) for three years after that!

Another installment of this column will deal with 160-80-40 Meters late this summer. About that time, we will be soliciting your log excerpts from the fall and winter of 1973, as that was one of those periods when the editor was pretty much off-the-air. We listened that winter, but not much else.

Meanwhile, we invite your comments on the matters discussed on this page (and in Issue 199).

POSTSCRIPT: Just last week, one Dr. Rands (sp?) of the University of California received a Pulitzer Prize in music, for his 30-minute composition for tenor and strings. He set to music thirteen poems from around the world, all dealing with the "phases of the Sun and their effect on human behavior." No, we didn't make that up, honest.



BANDPASS: Call/Frequency/UTC (plus West, Mountain, Central, East)/Date

AP2UR 14007 13C 10	JT1AU 14040 13C 13	T3ØAC 14033 06W 10	YBØARA 14024 00C 18
AP2MQ 14192 02E 17	JY9AA 14178 03C 18	T3ØAT 10123 06W 13	YJ8TT 14220 06C 15
A24WF 28530 12E 15	(WA3HUP Op)	UW3SY/1 14025 01C 10	ZB2EO 14162 19E 15
A4XKC 14190 19E 15	JY8CQ 14178 03C 18	(F.J.L.)	ZF2AH 14029 23E 7
BVØAA 7001 12E 17	(WB3CQN Op)	UW3SY/1 14028 13C 11	ZK1XL 7011 10C 12
BVØAA 14195 13E 18	F6HIX/	UW1SY/1 14025 01C 12	ZK1XL 14030 02E 12
BVØAA 7001 13E 18	J73 14026 23E 9	U9Z 14015 02E 17	ZK2IK 14195 12E 4
CN8CC 21270 18C 10	KX6PO 21290 21E 7	UKØKAO 14212 03E 17	ZK2BW 14061 04M 9
CN8EJ 28555 19E 14	KX6DS 21027 20E 14	(Kamchatka)	ZP5AO 14025 03E 5
CT3DJ 14031 23E 11	AH8A 21355 18C 11	UF6QAS 14036 03M 12	Z21GC 14158 12E 3
DU6RT 14190 14E 7	AH8A 21355 19C 12	UL7EAH 14031 12E 9	Z22JE 14178 13C 14
DULMEL 14198 14C 8	AH8A 21355 18E 15	UL7GDH 14013 02E 10	3B8FG 14023 13C 10
D44BS 28562 19E 14	AH9AB 14226 12E 2	UL7PBH 14027 02E 11	3B8DB 14019 02C 15
EA6BG 21326 14E 7	KT6V/	UL7GDN 14038 03M 12	3B8FG 14194 04E 16
EA8ADP 3795 06E 14	AH9 14022 13C 18	UK7CAI 14024 03M 12	3D6AL 14207 14C 8
EA9IE 14200 03C 18	LX1BJ 14023 11E 10	UL7XC 14025 01C 13	3D6AJ 14217 13C 8
EL2FP 14025 22E 12	OHØBA 14020 13C 14	UL7GM 14011 00C 14	3D6AN 14211 13C 9
EL2AY 28530 16E 14	OX5RJ 14227 00C 11	UL7PBH 14024 03C 16	4K1GAG 7006 08W 11
FB8WJ 21297 13C 11	OX3LV 14195 22C 12	UI8AAO 14028 02E 8	(S. Shetlands)
FB8WJ 28547 13E 14	OY7ML 10105 07W 11	UI8ADF 14035 02E 10	4K1GAG 14014 22E 11
FG7BO 14033 21E 8	OY9JD 14295 16C 12	UI8FAI 14008 03E 12	4S7NE 14039 02E 10
FG7XE 14009 11E 11	PJ7VL 14022 01E 11	UI8DAM 14189 03E 16	4X4TA 21325 19C 13
FKØAQ 14026 12E 4	PZ1DV 14032 23E 9	UI8ZAA 14204 03E 16	5H3SG 28595 18E 15
FK8CE 14013 06W 10	PZ1DV 21025 21C 10	UI8MF 14183 01E 17	5H3RF 28580 19E 15
FK8EY 14041 07W 10	PZ2AC 14014 03E 12	UJ8JCT 14026 03M 11	5Z4BW 21308 20C 12
FK8BU 14010 05W 12	PZ1DV 14005 11C 12	UM8MBA 14021 02C 10	5Z4DJ 28625 19E 14
FM7WD 7006 08W-11	SULR 3781 03E 13	UM8MAL 14034 02E 10	5Z4DJ 14194 04E 16
FM7CW 21031 19E 14	SV1RP 14011 00E 8	UM8MBA 14011 02C 12	5Z4PR 14186 04E 17
FO8JR 14025 04M 9	SV1NA 7012 03E 10	UM8MAL 14024 01C 13	N4RJ/
FO8JP 14005 06W 10	S42GY 14201 13C 6	VK2RJ 10103 07W 10	6W1 28580 17E 15
FO8JP 14007 06W 12	S83H 21355 18C 11	VK3VJ 10105 07W 11	6W1DY 28580 17E 15
FO8JP 14005 05C 14	KE4SX/	VS6JH 14016 13C 12	7X2LX 14183 03C 18
FO8KP 7006 06C 15	TF 14235 00E 15	VS6HI 14027 13C 17	9G2XX 14236 02E 15
FR7BP 14026 13C 8	W3TB/	VU2GDG 14193 12E 2	(Box 6437 Accra)
FR7BP 14025 13C 11	TF 14200 16E 15	VU2XJO 14043 12E 11	9J2BO 21026 19C 12
FR7ZD 14196 13C 14	KD5YG/	VU2DZ 14167 11E 11	9J2LG 28630 14E 14
GU3KFT 3787 06E 14	TF 3790 04E 18	VU2NCS 14005 12C 14	9M1AX 21023 17C 10
HI2PC 7006 08W 11	TG9XHQ 21029 17E 14	F6HIX/	9V1VP 14195 15E 8
HK1BYM 3507 05M 7	TI5BCA 21023 17E 14	V2A 14022 00C 13	9Y4M 14016 11E 13
HKØHEU 21299 23E 1	TK5UC 14215 16E 14	XU1SS 14335 13E 1	
HKØBKX 14014 13C 13	(ex-FC9UC)	YBØARC 14201 12E 3	
HKØHEU 14200 01E 16	TR8DR 14020 21E 14	YBØWR 14174 12E 6	
HV3SJ 21263 16E 7	TU2JT 28535 14E 15	YBØAFA 14020 13C 11	
JT1BR 14020 11E 11	T3ØAT 21262 21E 7	YB4FN 14024 13E 14	
JTØDJT 14020 17E 17	T3ØAT 21013 19C 9	YB3DC 14199 13C 14	
JT1BR 14046 13C 13	T3ØAT 14022 19C 9	YB3DC 14197 13E 15	

Please mail reports to reach Vernon by Wednesday, or phone:

203-742-7124

(24 hours).

A W2GK Expedition of the Month Activity

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

V K 9 X X

OCEANIA, ZONE 29

Operator: WA9AUM  
25-5-78 to 14-6-78  
CW AM 1555  
Your report: 4-3

Operation Time: 1500  
QSO verified by: JH K4DIA



QSL VIA  
STUART MEYER, W2GK  
BOX 7388  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY  
07107 U.S.A.

RG5B

1SWL

ABU DHABI U.A.E.

A6 XF

OP A.T. Chesley, PO Box 688

TO RADIO					
DATE	QST	BAND	2 WAY	R.S.T.	QSL
15-6-78	02-38	14 MHz	SSB	5-3	7 NV

QSO VERIFIED BY G3SUW QSL MANAGER

Rand

FERNANDO DE NORONHA ISLAND

ZVØ WH



• ZVØWH

Operated by:  
Les Campos PY2WH  
QSL VIA:  
Arden Hopple, W3DJZ  
122 Sunset View Drive  
Fair Acres, New Cumberland  
Pennsylvania 17070

QSO WITH	DATE	QST	BAND	R.S.T.	2-WAY
WA9AUM	2-14-78	0253	14	5-9	100

A W2GK Expedition of the Month Activity



FROM AFGHANISTAN  
THE VOICE OF THE SILENT BUDDHA

4A1AH



QSO WITH	DATE	QST	BAND	R.S.T.	2-WAY
WA9AUM	11-6-78	02-38	14	5-9	100

THANK'S QSL! (Signature) (Signature) (Signature) (Signature) (Signature) (Signature)



## CALENDAR

HAMVENTION DAYTON, Apr 27-29: See you there!  
 ETHIOPIA No reports ET3PG/PS; I 233  
 NAURU NO word on C21NI by DL1VU  
 JORDAN JY9AA/JY8CQ on NOW; I 235  
 MAYOTTE F6ECS rumored there soon; I 234  
 LORD HOWE Should be on NOW by W6REC, to Apr 25  
 CHAD F6AJB replaces F6BFN soon; I 232  
 FAROES By LA group cancelled or postponed  
 TAIWAN BV0AA by OH group until Apr 24  
 TUNISIA 3V8 by German group Apr 26-May 8  
 IY4MARC April 25; I 234

TAIWAN JA group Apr 28-May 6; I 232  
 CURACAO K3U0C/PJ2 Apr 27-29  
 ARUBA K3U0C/PJ3 Apr 29, 30  
 GENEVA W1RR at 4U1ITU Apr 29-May 17  
 BONAIRE K3U0C/PJ4 Apr 30/May 1

MONACO DL1BA/3A May 1-30; I 235  
 CRETE DF4RD/SV9 Apr 29-May 13  
 USSR New Callsigns May 1; I 233  
 ST MAARTEN K2KTT/PJ7 May 17-20  
 SPRATLY 1S2CK delayed to mid-May; I 235  
 FIJI 3S2DA by W6REC May 10-13; I 235  
 CONTEST CQ WPX CW May 26/27  
 GUERNSEY GU3HFN rumored by N5RM May 26/27  
 MORE RUMORS KP5 in May, 3Y Dec (this issue)

## CONTRIBUTORS

N4KG, KB1BE, K1HDO, K7ZR, KA1XN, LA5UF, DX  
 Family Foundation (Japan), K2OLG, KE7X, AB8K,  
 K6IR, WD5AAM, W7YF, W9DRL, W4BAA, WA9AEA, K4BAI,  
 K0CVD, W4VQ, W0BW, KM9J, KR1G, W0JRN, YASME, W4GW,  
 JH4PRU, W4YN, CE5CNT, W1VV, K2KTT, KA1BU, KH6BZF.

## YASME REPORT

W6QL/CE0 Juan fernandez ended April 4 with 5,000 contacts in 120 DXCC countries. Juan Fernandez is a rocky island with very steep mountains extending nearly straight up from the sea. Only very small planes can land there, after which passengers must make a long walk to the sea, where a small boat takes them on a 2-hour trip to the only village on the island. The village is in a cove surrounded by mountains; our operation was from within this inlet, with a reasonably clear shot to Europe and the U.S. Steep mountains blocked all other directions. From a radio standpoint, this was the worst location we have ever operated from. The electric power to the village is only on eight hours a day; the rest of the time, we operated from a generator which never did work right.

There was no gasoline readily available on the island, and we had to rely on obtaining a little here and there from various inhabitants. We had brought only part of our radio gear because of weight limitations on the small plane. We did have Celso, CE3ACA, along with us; he was vital as interpreter, radio repairman, and generator repairman, plus he did a third of the radio operating.

This was our last stop on this trip, which lasted six months; we operated from nine countries and made 55,000 contacts. After stops at radio clubs in Uruguay and Argentina, we returned to the U.S.A. We will be at the Dayton Hamvention. If any radio clubs would like us to appear for a slide show and talk, contact the YASME Foundation

---Iris Colvin, W6QL  
 Lloyd Colvin, W6KG

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## NEWSPAPER

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